

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Mikio AOKI; Shinya TANIGUCHI

Application No.: Continuation of PCT/JP00/07717

Filed: June 28, 2001

Docket No.: 109952

For: DATA OUTPUT CONTROLLER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 3, 5-8, 11 and 13-16 as follows:

(3) (Amended) A data output controller according to claim 1, wherein the output terminal information includes data on an output terminal position for determining a location where the output terminal is installed, and the search data may include data on a desired providing area that indicates a desired providing area, which is an approximate place where output data is desired to be provided, the selecting means retrieves data on an output terminal position from the storage means on the basis of the data on a desired providing area included in the search data thereby to select an output terminal located in an area specified by the data on a desired providing area.

(5) (Amended) A data output controller according to claim 1, wherein the output terminal information includes printing format data indicating a data format that can be printed by the output terminal among data formats of data regarding the data print request, and the

search data may include the printing format data, and the selecting means retrieves printing format data from the storage means on the basis of the printing format data included in the search data, and selects an output terminal associated with the printing format data.

(6) (Amended) A data output controller according to claim 1, wherein the output terminal information includes printing specification data indicating the printing specification of the output terminal, and the search data may include the printing specification data, and the selecting means retrieves printing specification data from the storage means on the basis of printing specification data included in the search data, and selects an output terminal associated with the printing specification data.

(7) (Amended) A data output controller according to claim 1, wherein the output terminal information includes output terminal identifying data for identifying the output terminals, and the search data may include the output terminal identifying data, and the selecting means retrieves output terminal identifying data from the storage means solely on the basis of output terminal identifying data included in the search data, and selects an output terminal that coincides with the output terminal identifying data.

(8) (Amended) A data output controller according to claim 1, wherein the output means outputs output terminal information corresponding to an output terminal selected by the selecting means to the portable terminal.

(11) (Amended) A data output controller according to claim 9, wherein the output terminal information includes data on an output terminal position for determining a location where the output terminal is installed, and the search data may include desired providing area

data that indicates a desired providing area, which is an approximate place where output data is desired to be provided, the selecting means retrieves data on an output terminal position from the storage means on the basis of the data on a desired providing area included in the search data thereby to select an output terminal located in an area specified by the data on a desired providing area.

(13) (Amended) A data output controller according to claim 9, wherein the output terminal information includes output format data indicating a data format that can be output by the output terminal among data formats of data regarding the data output request, and the search data may include the output format data, and the selecting means retrieves output format data from the storage means on the basis of the output format data included in the search data, and selects an output terminal associated with the output format data.

(14) (Amended) A data output controller according to claim 9, wherein the output terminal information includes output specification data indicating the output specification of the output terminal, and the search data may include the output specification data, and the selecting means retrieves output specification data from the storage means on the basis of output specification data included in the search data, and selects an output terminal associated with the output specification data.

(15) (Amended) A data output controller according to claim 9, wherein the output terminal information includes output terminal identifying data for identifying the output terminals, and the search data may include the output terminal identifying data, and the selecting means retrieves output terminal identifying data from the storage means solely on the basis of output terminal identifying data included in the search data, and selects an output

terminal that coincides with the output terminal identifying data.

(16) (Amended) A data output controller according to claim 9, wherein the output means outputs output terminal information corresponding to an output terminal selected by the selecting means to the portable terminal.

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 16 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 3, 5-8, 11 and 13-16 are amended to remove multiple dependencies. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. 1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Appendix

Date: June 28, 2001

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DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
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APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

The following are marked-up versions of the amended claims:

(3) (Amended) A data output controller according to ~~one of claims 1 and 2~~ claim 1, wherein the output terminal information includes data on an output terminal position for determining a location where the output terminal is installed, and the search data may include data on a desired providing area that indicates a desired providing area, which is an approximate place where output data is desired to be provided, the selecting means retrieves data on an output terminal position from the storage means on the basis of the data on a desired providing area included in the search data thereby to select an output terminal located in an area specified by the data on a desired providing area.

(5) (Amended) A data output controller according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein the output terminal information includes printing format data indicating a data format that can be printed by the output terminal among data formats of data regarding the data print request, and the search data may include the printing format data, and the selecting means retrieves printing format data from the storage means on the basis of the printing format data included in the search data, and selects an output terminal associated with the printing format data.

(6) (Amended) A data output controller according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein the output terminal information includes printing specification data indicating the printing specification of the output terminal, and the search data may include the printing specification data, and the selecting means retrieves printing specification data from the storage means on the basis of printing specification data included in the search data, and

selects an output terminal associated with the printing specification data.

(7) (Amended) A data output controller according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein the output terminal information includes output terminal identifying data for identifying the output terminals, and the search data may include the output terminal identifying data, and the selecting means retrieves output terminal identifying data from the storage means solely on the basis of output terminal identifying data included in the search data, and selects an output terminal that coincides with the output terminal identifying data.

(8) (Amended) A data output controller according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein the output means outputs output terminal information corresponding to an output terminal selected by the selecting means to the portable terminal.

(11) (Amended) A data output controller according to ~~one of claims 9 and 10~~ claim 9, wherein the output terminal information includes data on an output terminal position for determining a location where the output terminal is installed, and the search data may include desired providing area data that indicates a desired providing area, which is an approximate place where output data is desired to be provided, the selecting means retrieves data on an output terminal position from the storage means on the basis of the data on a desired providing area included in the search data thereby to select an output terminal located in an area specified by the data on a desired providing area.

(13) (Amended) A data output controller according to ~~any one of claims 9 to 12~~ claim 9, wherein the output terminal information includes output format data indicating a data format that can be output by the output terminal among data formats of data regarding the

data output request, and the search data may include the output format data, and the selecting means retrieves output format data from the storage means on the basis of the output format data included in the search data, and selects an output terminal associated with the output format data.

(14) (Amended) A data output controller according to ~~any one of claims 9 to 13~~ claim 9, wherein the output terminal information includes output specification data indicating the output specification of the output terminal, and the search data may include the output specification data, and the selecting means retrieves output specification data from the storage means on the basis of output specification data included in the search data, and selects an output terminal associated with the output specification data.

(15) (Amended) A data output controller according to ~~any one of claims 9 to 14~~ claim 9, wherein the output terminal information includes output terminal identifying data for identifying the output terminals, and the search data may include the output terminal identifying data, and the selecting means retrieves output terminal identifying data from the storage means solely on the basis of output terminal identifying data included in the search data, and selects an output terminal that coincides with the output terminal identifying data.

(16) (Amended) A data output controller according to ~~any one of claims 9 to 15~~ claim 9, wherein the output means outputs output terminal information corresponding to an output terminal selected by the selecting means to the portable terminal.